GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:482
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003
GRABBING OF SEATS BY PORTERS IN UNRESERVED COACHES
MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the porters grab seats in unreserved coaches and extort money from the passengers in lieu of those seats;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last three years, till date and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the measures taken/to be taken by the Government to check this unlawful act?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL)

(a) to (c): Some instances of grabbing of seats in unreserved coaches by porters have come to notice. However, statistics regarding this are not being maintained separately. Information to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. Regular checks are conducted by the Commercial and Vigilance departments in association with the Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police to prevent cornering of seats by porters and other anti-social elements. In order to check this menace, coaches are brought from the yards to the platforms in a locked condition at the train originating stations and passengers are advised to follow a queue system. At major stations, assistance of Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police is taken in ensuring that passengers board train in a queue.